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Message Text

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71
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 /085 W
---------- 032424
R 161426Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2986
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS LUSAKA 0651

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, AO, MZ, RH, ZA
SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER S REMARKS ON RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA, RHODESIA

1. FONMIN RUPIAH BANDA RETURNED TO LUSAKA MARCH 14 FOLLOWING TWO-WEEK TOUR OF FOUR EUROPEAN CAPITALS. DURING AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE BANDA REPORTEDLY SAID HE HAD FOUND AN "UNDERLYING ANXIETY" IN PARIS, LISBON, AND BELGRADE THAT ZAMBIA NORMALIZE ITS RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA "BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED ZAMBIA COULD HELP THE YOUNG NATION ALOT." BANDA INDICATED ZAMBIA WOULD NOT BE ASHAMED TAKE DECISION ON QUESTION OF RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA. THIS WOULD BE AMONG ISSUES TO BE TAKEN UP WITH DELEGATION OF SENIOR
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MPLA GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARRIVING IN LUSAKA MARCH 16 FOR

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DISCUSSIONS WITH GRZ. BANDA ADDED THAT WHILE IN EUROPE HE HAD MET TOP MPLA OFFICIALS (BANDA DID NOT SAY WITH WHOM OR WHERE MEETING TOOK PLACE) WHO, HE SAID, EXPRESSED RESPECT FOR ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT AND PARTICULAR DESIRE FOR RECOGNITION BY IT.

2. PRESS REPORTS SIX-MAN MPLA TEAM ARRIVING TODAY WILL BE LED BY PRA FONMIN JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS.

3. BANDA ALSO DESCRIBED WEST EUROPEAN OFFICIALS HE MET AS "EXTREMELY JITTERY" ABOUT SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA FOLLOWING CLOSURE OF MOZAMBIQUE BORDER WITH RHODESIA. THEY HAD ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT ALLEGED PRESENCE OF CUBAN OR SOVIET MILITARY PERSONNEL IN MOZAMBIQUE. BANDA SAID HE REASSURED THEM THAT STRUGGLE FOR RHODESIA IS BEING WAGED BY ZIMBABWEANS THEMSELVES. IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES IN LONDON WHETHER ZAMBIA STILL SUPPORTS PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA, BANDA SAID HE HAD RESPONDED THAT ZAMBIA S POSITION IS TO SUPPORT WHATEVER ANC DECIDES IT MUST DO. HE HAD TOLD FONSECY CALLAGHAN THAT MOZAMBIQUE BORDER CLOSING HAD BEEN PROVOKED BY RHODESIA AND THAT ZAMBIA WILL SUPPORT MOZAMBIQUE IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE.
WILKOWSKI

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